

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING MAY 20, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: While some locations in the eastern half of the State received much-needed rainfall, the weather pattern across most of New Mexico remained bone-dry as has been the case recently, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Despite the precipitation, little improvement was evident in pasture grass condition or soil moisture levels. Fire danger remained high in areas where last year's growth has not been grazed. The United States Drought Monitor released on May 17 showed that exceptional drought (D4) had expanded to cover 20.3 percent of the State. In addition, severe to extreme drought (D2-D3) was reportedly covering 69.9 percent of the State. Overall, conditions rated abnormally dry or worse now blanketed 100 percent of New Mexico. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 15 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 8 percent last week, 45 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 36 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 5 percent good to excellent, compared with 6 percent last week, 34 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 24 percent. Livestock producers in some areas were starting to sell cattle, while others continued to haul water and provide supplemental feed at a higher than normal rate. Branding was in full swing. Reports from San Juan County indicated that some noxious weeds, such as tansy mustard, were flourishing which has led to poisoning problems in some herds. Spring fieldwork was ongoing, with row crops being planted as conditions allowed. Comments from Dona Ana County noted that 100 percent of the wheat for silage acreage had been harvested. Precipitation was recorded at 10 out of 44 reporting weather stations, with Melrose Gunnery, at 0.68 inch, reporting the largest accumulation during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below to 10 degrees above normal. At the reporting weather stations, daytime highs varied from 68 degrees at Angel Fire to 101 degrees at Carlsbad. Artesia also recorded a daytime high that reached the century mark during the week. Overnight lows ranged from 20 degrees at El Vado Dam to 59 degrees at Truth or Consequences. Freeze damage in all crops was reported as 2 percent light and 2 percent moderate, compared with 4 percent light and 3 percent moderate last week. There was no hail damage reported. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 17 percent light, 8 percent moderate, and 1 percent severe, compared with 26 percent light, 17 percent moderate, and 2 percent severe last week. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 28 percent very short, 31 percent short, 40 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus, compared with 30 percent very short, 35 percent short, 34 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 35 percent very short, 22 percent short, and 43 percent adequate, compared with 36 percent very short, 22 percent short, and 42 percent adequate last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 st cutting harvested.....	52	41	61	57
Chile				
Planted.....	92	87	100	NA
Emerged	79	71	80	NA
Corn				
Planted.....	73	61	56	58
Emerged	38	22	21	22
Cotton				
Planted.....	65	55	77	63
Emerged	52	42	34	NA
Onions				
Emerged	92	85	98	NA
Peanuts				
Planted.....	16	10	45	25
Sorghum				
Planted.....	39	29	11	16
Emerged	7	1	--	NA
Winter wheat				
Headed	95	91	96	75
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	90	85	55	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	82	75	46	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.8	7.0	6.6	5.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	55	63	18	32
Short.....	30	29	37	32
Adequate.....	15	8	44	35
Surplus.....	--	--	1	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	41	40	16	NA
Short.....	46	54	38	NA
Adequate.....	13	6	45	NA
Surplus.....	--	--	1	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	15	12	--	--
Poor.....	1	6	1	3
Fair.....	25	27	22	34
Good.....	57	52	74	50
Excellent.....	2	3	3	13
Chile				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	7	13	7	NA
Fair.....	9	15	53	NA
Good.....	55	46	30	NA
Excellent.....	29	26	10	NA
Onions				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	--	--
Fair.....	16	16	16	12
Good.....	47	64	68	45
Excellent.....	37	20	16	43
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	17	22	7	22
Poor.....	50	44	16	23
Fair.....	28	28	43	31
Good.....	5	6	26	19
Excellent.....	--	--	8	5
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	16	20	2	22
Poor.....	53	47	12	14
Fair.....	18	17	32	30
Good.....	8	9	50	26
Excellent.....	5	7	4	8
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	4	1	NA
Poor.....	14	13	2	NA
Fair.....	46	46	35	NA
Good.....	34	33	55	NA
Excellent.....	4	4	7	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	7	16	9	NA
Poor.....	1	6	11	NA
Fair.....	45	40	17	NA
Good.....	46	38	62	NA
Excellent.....	1	--	1	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

New Mexico's weather data can be accessed at the following:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/NM-Weather-05202018.pdf

Notice: Please be advised, the Weekly Crop Progress report's weather data table may be discontinued for budget reasons. Please contact the NASS Mountain Regional Field Office at (720) 787-3150 with comments or compliments regarding this issue. The Weekly Crop Progress report's crop progress and condition data will remain and be available.